

To: Vann, Bradley[Vann.Bradley@epa.gov]
From: Washburn, Ben
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Subject: reporter questions

1. Historical documents from various state and federal agencies seem to be inconsistent when it comes to characterizing what radioactive waste was dumped at the West Lake Landfill. How confident is the EPA in its original characterization of the site, and can you confirm the details of that characterization? Have they changed since the 2008 ROD?

2. Recent tests and investigations claim to have found evidence that radioactive waste or materials may be beyond the boundaries of the West Lake Landfill (for example, waste found in other places within the landfill complex, positive tests conducted by residents, and researchers saying radioactive particles have migrated into the groundwater). How is it that the EPA can continue to maintain that radioactive materials have not migrated from the West Lake Landfill, which has no lining or cover?

3. Critics and concerned residents maintain that — given the rapid pace at which the Bridgeton/West Lake Landfill situation is moving — the EPA may not be the best agency to handle the site. How can the EPA reassure residents that this is not true?

4. Given that the radioactive waste was dumped at West Lake Landfill illegally at a facility for which it was not designed, why has the policy been to contain the waste instead of move it?

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